

Goddard Men's Tenpin League Rules 2009-2010

Any rules not covered here are covered by the Official USBC Rules.

Rule 1 USBC Sanction

The League will conduct and play all of its games in strict compliance with the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Rules and Regulations, and any League rule which conflicts with these will not be valid.

Rule 2 Handicaps

The League will bowl on a handicap basis. The handicap allowance shall be ninety-five percent (95%) of 220 scratch with a maximum of 90 pins handicap. Each bowler's handicap will be based on 95% of the difference between the bowler's current average and 220. Fractions of pins shall not count towards establishment of the bowler's handicap. For bowlers whose averages are above 220, a zero (0) handicap applies. Current average is the bowler's average as computed and posted by the League Secretary. The same official "current average" will apply for all three (3) games of the night's competition.

All bowlers **without an established handicap must bowl nine (9) games in order to establish a handicap in the league. All bowlers with an established handicap must bowl twelve (12) games in order to establish a new handicap. While a bowler is establishing a handicap, his handicap** will be based on one of the following:

- 1). Use Final Average from the prior season for all returning bowlers.
- 2). Use another GSFC league average.
- 3). Use the highest recognized USBC average from the previous season.
- 4). Use 90% of the difference between the bowler's average at the end of the night and 220.

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Rule 3 **Cost of Bowling**

Each Team Captain will pay the Treasurer the sum of **\$85.00** every scheduled night of the bowling season. The breakdown of the fee per bowler is as follows:

Cost of Bowling (Alley fee)	\$9.50
Prize Fund Money	\$6.45
DuChon Youth Tournament	\$0.50
Secretary/Treasurer fee	<u>\$0.55</u>
	\$17.00

Rule 4 **Standings Determination**

Standings shall be determined on a point basis. One (1) point is awarded for each bowler beating his opponent with handicap for each game bowled and for total set. Two (2) points are awarded for each team game won including total pins.

If a Blind is bowling against a bowler without an established handicap, or two (2) Blinds are bowling against each other, the point for each game and set will be awarded to the team winning each game and set.

If a bowler is bowling against a Blind or Vacancy, the point for each game and set will be awarded to whoever has the greater score with handicap for each game bowled and for total set.

The order of finish in the event of ties shall be based upon:

1. Head-to-head record among the Teams tied.
2. Total pins if teams are still tied.

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Rule 5 **League Championship**

The league shall bowl each season with two (2) 16-week halves. The winner of the first half plays the winner of the second half to determine the championship of the league. If the same team wins both halves, no rolloff will be necessary.

The League Championship rolloff shall be bowled in the same format as a regular bowling night where total points determine the winner of the match.

In the event of a tie **for either the Half or League Championship, a one-frame** playoff will be conducted according to USBC Rule 113.

Rule 6 **Postponements**

The League's Team Captains shall determine what shall be sufficient cause to grant postponements. Postponements must be requested when a team fails to appear for its scheduled engagement for emergencies or other reasons beyond their control.

A postponement shall be granted under the following condition:

The request is made to the League through the Secretary/Treasurer at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled match and approved by the Team Captains.

The League will not bowl whenever a GSFC emergency plan is in effect.

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Rule 7 **Blind Score**

A team which is required to bowl with less than the number of players required for a full line-up, but having the required minimum number of players to constitute a team, shall be permitted to use a "Blind" score for each absentee.

Each "Blind" score shall be computed as follows:

- 1). The average of the missing bowler on the team with the most games bowled less 10 pins or the Handicap Base less 10 pins whichever is lower plus his handicap. This average can be a bowler's "entering" average if no other absent member on the team has an established handicap as stated in Rule #2.
- 2). 125 with 85 pins handicap (90% of 220) if the missing bowler does not have a handicap posted on the league standings sheet.

Rule 8 **Tardy Players**

A bowler who arrives after his team has started bowling any game shall be permitted to enter competition provided the team for which he is bowling has not completed the fifth (5th) frame of that game. Intentional delays for this purpose by any team member is considered unsportsmanlike and cause for forfeiture. The tardy bowler must bowl his missed frames according to how the scoring computer selects. A tardy bowler must not be allowed to bowl all his frames in a row to catch up.

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Rule 9 Regular and Substitute Players

New bowlers cannot be added to a Team's roster or the Substitute list within three (3) weeks of the close of each half. Any bowler without a handicap posted on the League standings sheet cannot bowl in the League within three (3) weeks of the close of each half. The League, however, must allow for emergencies where a team is unable to field a full lineup. Should a regular member quit, the Team Captain will notify the Secretary/Treasurer of the replacement for the approval of the League.

A bowler can be a member of only one team in the League. A transfer can be arranged between teams as follows:

- a. The bowler desiring to transfer obtains a release from his Team Captain.
- b. Two-thirds of the Team Captains agree to the transfer.
- c. After the transfer is arranged, the bowler may not bowl with the team from which he secured a release during the balance of the season.

Rule 10 New Teams

A team that enters competition after the season is in progress shall assume the position standings of the team it replaces. The team shall qualify for all prize money it wins from the date it enters competition. The prize money will be prorated according to the length of time in the League.

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Rule 11 Behavior of Bowlers

Bowlers are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and must refrain from creating any undue noise or disturbance that will in any way distract any bowler's attention while bowling is in progress.

The League shall have the authority to discipline any member(s) within the league whose personal actions and/or behavior within the confines of the bowling establishment are not in the best interest and/or spirit of the constitution of the League. Upon substantiation of an infraction, the League will form a Review Board composed of League Officers and Team Captains to determine the action to be taken based on the particular individual's infraction. As a minimum, the Review Board shall be composed of two (2) League Officers and six (6) Team Captains. Substitutions for League Officers or Team Captains shall not be allowed. Based on the decision(s) of the Review Board, the League will enforce the appropriate penalty. The penalty may range from that of a written warning to the complete removal from the League along with forfeiture of Prize money.

Rule 12 Practice Bowling

Before League competition, league members must not practice on any of the alleys that the league bowls (#27-36).

During practice bowling prior to each night's matches, each bowler is allotted 1 (one) practice ball for each time through the line of bowler's on a lane.

Rule 13 Forfeit - League Fee Arrearages

The following is in addition to USBC Rule 110a:

If a team is in arrears to the league for 2 or more weeks' fee (**\$170**), that team will forfeit all points until payment is made.

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Rule 14 **Individual Unopposed Bowling**

- a. Individual bowlers may pre-bowl any League match unopposed as long as they bowl under the same conditions as in league play. Approval must be received from a League Officer as well as confirmation of lane availability and time from the Bowling Center.
- b. The opposing team is allowed to see any individual pre-bowl scores prior to the match.
- c. After the 4th week of the season, a bowler can only pre-bowl if the number of games pre-bowled is 25% or less than his total games bowled. A bowler may request a waiver to this rule due to work, school or undue hardship. However, this waiver must be approved by a majority vote of the board of directors.
- d. Individual bowlers may post-bowl any League match unopposed as long as they adhere to the rules below:
 1. Post-bowling will only be allowed in the event that a team cannot field a legal lineup on the scheduled night.
 2. Notification must be made to a League Officer prior to the start of bowling for the match.
 3. Bowl under the same conditions as in league play.
 4. Only the minimum bowlers will be allowed to post-bowl. (I.e., 2 regular bowlers appear, only 1 bowler would be allowed to post-bowl)
 5. The name(s) of the bowlers post-bowling must be put on the recap sheet in the proper position prior to the start of the match.
 6. Post-bowling must take place by the Monday following the scheduled match. If not, the team forfeits this match.

Rule 15 **Setting your Line-up**

The team on the left lane must enter their line-up first prior to each match. The team on the right lane has the last line-up change.